

FAPWEA Organizes Aid for Typhoon Victims

LA County Public Works employees rushed to aid victims of deadly Typhoon Haiyan that struck the Philippines last month, donating more than \$2,500 to date for disaster relief efforts.

The call for help was put out by the Filipino-American Public Works Employees Association (FAPWEA) in the immediate aftermath of the disaster, which has claimed over 3,500 lives and devastated much of the



FAPWEA members Eric Baul of Watershed Management; Neil Pagcaliwangan of Traffic & Lighting; Golda Mendoza of Fiscal; and Nathan Salazar of Survey/Mapping and Property Management head up the Department's Typhoon Haiyan relief effort.

nation. About 150 Public Works employees, or about 4 percent of the Department's workforce, either come from the Philippines or have family members there. FAPWEA Vice President Nathan Salazar, of Survey/Mapping and Property Management Division, said several employees' families had been impacted by the typhoon, the worst in recorded history.

"Many of our Filipino staff are concerned for the safety and welfare of their family members who are now uncertain of their immediate future as a result of this tragedy," Salazar said. He and other FAPWEA officers



Department employees raised an additional \$745 through a bake sale hosted by the Survey and Mapping Division with help from FAPWEA and other divisions.

joined Public Works Director Gail Farber in urging employees to donate during last month's Service Awards Ceremony. FAPWEA also circulated an appeal to all Department personnel. "The response to our call for help was fantastic and within a week we had pledges of support totaling more than \$2,000," Salazar said.

In addition, Department personnel raised another \$745 through a bake sale hosted by Survey and Mapping Division with help from FAPWEA and other divisions. Funds raised will be donated to the Philippines Red Cross for typhoon relief efforts as well as the American Red Cross to support victims of the Midwest tornadoes.

Monetary donations are still being accepted to aid typhoon recovery efforts and can be sent via the Philippines Red Cross website at www.redcross.org.ph/donate.



Diversity Calendar

- **December 23, 2013** – The 7th Annual "Holidays Around the World" multicultural festival will take place in the Headquarters' Cafeteria from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will feature live music, dance groups, ethnic cuisine, and arts and crafts. For information, contact Steve Milewski at (626) 458-3573 or Flora Wiegers at (626) 458-5193.
- **December 24, 2013** – 54th Annual Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration. Celebrate the holiday season with more than 20 choirs, music ensembles, and dance companies representing LA County. For more information, visit www.lacountyarts.org.

